

REMARKS:

- 1) The specification page 8, line 20 has been corrected as suggested by the Examiner. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.
- 2) The indication of allowable subject matter in original claims 4, 5 and 8 is sincerely appreciated.
- 3) The rejections of claims 1, 2, 3, 7, 11 and 12 under 35 USC 102(b) and the rejections of claims 6, 9 and 10 under 35 USC 103 (a) are respectfully traversed for the following reasons.
- 4) Original claim 1 has been combined with claim 3 and allowable claim 4. Hence, claim 1 as amended and claims 2 and 5 to 12 remaining dependent under amended claim 1 are now in condition for allowance.
- 5) Claims 3 and 4 have been cancelled.
- 6) New claim 13 is a combination of original claim 1 and allowable claim 8. Hence, new claim 13 is also in condition for allowance.
- 7) A minor editorial clarification has been made in line 2 of original claim 1 to make it clear that it is the clamping mechanism, and not the two structural components, that comprises the features following the word "comprising".

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- 8) Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application, including all present claims 1, 2 and 5 to 13, are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Applicant

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Enclosures:

By W. G. Fasse
W. G. Fasse
Patent Attorney
Reg. No.: 21187
Tel. 207-862-4671
Fax. 207-862-4681
P. O. Box 726
Hampden, ME 04444-0726

CERTIFICATE OF FAX TRANSMISSION:

I hereby certify that this correspondence with all indicated enclosures is being transmitted by telefax to (571) 273-8300 on the date indicated below, and is addressed to: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450.

W. G. Fasse
Name: W. G. Fasse - Date: August 24, 2005

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